

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 91 to 93 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Claims 1 to 83 (Canceled).

84. (Previously Amended) A method of creating an image characterized in that the image is formed as a plurality of bands, the bands being formed independently of data included in the bands, with each of the bands representing an independently displayable portion of the image, in which multiple passes over the bands are used to manipulate the image, and wherein each of the bands is stored as independent compressed pixel image data such that each of the bands is configured for independent manipulation through at least decompression of said band.

85. (Previously Added) A method according to Claim 84, wherein manipulation of the image comprises one of:

- (a) rendering the image;
- (b) compositing the image; and
- (c) editing the image.

86. (Previously Amended) A method of creating an image formed as a plurality of bands or sections, the bands being formed independently of data included in the bands, with each of the bands representing an independently displayable portion of the image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) storing each of the bands as independently compressed pixel image data; and

(b) editing the image by effecting multiple passes over the bands, whereby each of the bands is configured for independent editing.

87. (Previously Added) A method according to Claim 86, wherein for each band a corresponding compressed band is formed at step (a).

88. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 86, wherein step (b) comprises the sub-steps of:

(b1) decompressing at least one compressed band of pixel image data;

(b2) editing the at least one decompressed band;

(b3) compressing the at least one edited decompressed band; and

(b4) storing the at least one compressed edited band.

89. (Previously Added) A method according to Claim 88, wherein steps (b1), (b3) and (b4) are each performed on one band at a time.

90. (Previously Added) A method according to Claim 89, wherein step (b2) is performed on one band at a time.

91. (Cancelled)

92. (Cancelled)

93. (Cancelled)